

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-40 (cancelled)

Claim 41 (new): A packaging device for an elongate flexible medical device such as a guide wire, a catheter or the like, the packaging device including:

a flexible elongate body having means for reception of the medical device,

engagement means to allow interengagement of adjacent portions of the body when the body is wound in a coiled configuration to retain and support the body in said coiled configuration,

said engagement means being integrally formed with the flexible elongate body,

said engagement means comprising complementary interengagable formations on the flexible elongate body,

said complementary interengagable formations being resiliently deformable for interengagement,

said interengagable formations comprising associated male and female co-operating members on the flexible elongate body,

a pair of male members and a pair of female members being arranged on a periphery of the body on opposite sides of the body.

Claim 42 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein the complementary interengagable formations comprise

elongate elements on an exterior of the body which extend substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the body.

Claim 43 (new): The packaging device as claimed claim 41 wherein the engagement means is operable to support coils of the body side by side in a common plane.

Claim 44 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein the formations are interengagable in a direction substantially parallel to a plane defined by the coiled elongate body.

Claim 45 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein the formations are interengagable in a direction which is at an angle to a plane defined by the coiled elongate body.

Claim 46 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 45 wherein the formations are interengagable in a direction which is normal to a plane defined by the coiled elongate body.

Claim 47 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein each male member comprises a projection extending outwardly of the elongate body and each female member is formed by an arm projecting outwardly from the elongate body to define a socket therewith for reception of the male projection.

Claim 48 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 47 wherein each male projection is formed by a rib extending between opposite ends of the elongate body and each arm forming a female member extends between opposite ends of the elongate body.

Claim 49 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 47 wherein each arm is of arcuate section.

Claim 50 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein the male and female members are formed by curved arms at opposite sides of the body, each arm terminating in a bulbous head forming the male member, and the arm defining with the elongate body a female socket for reception of the bulbous head.

Claim 51 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein the male formations comprise a pair of spaced-apart projections extending outwardly at one side of the elongate body and the female formations comprise an associated pair of arms projecting outwardly at an opposite side of the elongate body to define sockets therewith for reception of the associated pair of male members.

Claim 52 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 51 wherein the arms extend tangentially outwardly at opposite sides of the elongate body and are substantially parallel, each arm terminating in an inturned lip to define with the body and the arm a female socket for reception of an associated male projection.

Claim 53 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 41 wherein the elongate flexible body is made from a polyolefin, a fluoropolymer or a polyamide material.

Claim 54 (new): A packaging device for an elongate flexible medical device such as a guide wire, a catheter or the like, the packaging device including:

a flexible elongate body having means for reception of the medical device,

engagement means to allow interengagement of adjacent portions of the body when the body is wound in a coiled configuration to retain and support the body in said coiled configuration,

said engagement means being integrally formed with the flexible elongate body,

said engagement means comprising complementary interengagable formations on the flexible elongate body,

said complementary interengagable formations being resiliently deformable for interengagement,

said interengagable formations comprising associated male and female co-operating members on the flexible elongate body,

the male formations comprising a pair of spaced-apart projections extending outwardly at one side of the elongate body and the female formations comprising an associated pair of arms projecting outwardly at an opposite side of the elongate body to define sockets therewith for reception of the associated pair of male members.

Claim 55 (new): The packaging device as claimed in claim 54 wherein the arms extend tangentially outwardly at opposite sides of the elongate body and are substantially parallel, each arm terminating in an inturned lip to define with the body and the arm a female socket for reception of an associated male projection.

Claim 56 (new): A packaging device for an elongate flexible medical device such as a guide wire, a catheter or the like, the packaging device including:

a flexible elongate body having means for reception of the medical device,

engagement means to allow interengagement of adjacent portions of the body when the body is wound in a coiled configuration to retain and support the body in said coiled configuration,

said engagement means being integrally formed with the flexible elongate body,

said engagement means comprising complementary interengagable formations on the flexible elongate body,

said complementary interengagable formations being resiliently deformable for interengagement,

said interengagable formations comprising associated male and female co-operating members on the flexible elongate body,

said male and female members being formed by curved arms at opposite sides of the body, each arm terminating in a bulbous head forming the male member, and the arm defining with the elongate body a female socket for reception of the bulbous head.